



CA-11 DMAT



Sacramento Disaster Medical Assistance Team

Volume 1, Number 4, May 2002

Message from the CA-11 President

Fellow team members I am pleased to announce that the NDMS conference attended by our management group in Atlanta was very productive and educational for all our participants. In the coming months these individuals will be called upon to teach what they learned to the entire team. Our training officer will decide how best to disseminate the large volume of information obtained.

Next year the NDMS conference is scheduled to be held in Reno, Nevada and as your President I have asked the Board of Directors to start making plans to provide financial aid for all CA-11 members who would like to attend. I would encourage everyone who can do so to participate in this conference.

Some highlights of the 2002 conference were:

In the future DMAT Teams will be categorized as Developmental or Operational rather than the current three level system (Level I, II or III). We on the Board are working to fill the remaining open positions necessary to achieve Level two status before the end of the summer. Announcements will be made to the membership at large and in the upcoming newsletters about the specialties we still need to recruit.

Other team leaders and OEP representatives at the conference were impressed with the speed with which CA-11 has developed in the short amount of time we have existed. I was told it was not uncommon for teams to take two years or
(Continued on Page 2)

Upcoming Event Schedule

May 16, 19:00 - General Meeting

June 20, 19:00 - Training Session Equipment Familiarization, DMAT Warehouse

July 18th, 19:00 - General Meeting

Directions to General Meetings:

Fitzgerald Road #4, Rancho Cordova.

From Highway 50 take Sunrise Blvd. South. Turn left on White Rock Road (major intersection). At first stop sign, turn right onto Fitzgerald Road. Go approximately ½ mile (you will see construction area on left) and turn left into "warehouse" units. 3329 – number 3329 is set back in from the street, and unit #4 is directly below the building number.



CA 11 gears up for May 2002 Rough and Ready

CA-11 Members Deploy on Training Exercise



The CA-11 crew heads for Southern California

Operations News

This month's Rough & Ready was a success for those who volunteered their time to make it to Southern California on May 3-5. Mass prophylaxis and mass casualty were the events that were organized to exercise our CA-11 team. The OPERATIONS portion of the CA-11 team consists of medical personnel with a diverse licensure and work experience. Operations is comprised of MD's, Pharmacists, Nurse Practitioners, RNs Respiratory Therapists, and EMTs who graciously volunteer their time and effort to make this team a valuable commodity. CA-11 has been well received as a "CAN DO" unit that certainly will be ready for possible deployment in the near future.

The team's immediate goal is to focus on quality patient care delivery in the field. This focus will be guided by our members by identifying those areas for training and practice - so bring your ideas to the meeting and pass them on. After the training begins for basic ICS modules on line, other training areas will be organized and presented. The Wildland Fire exercise in June will be a great time to put things together as a group. Members of Operations can also be a great influence for their friends and peers by inviting them to become members of CA-11. We are in need of qualified Laboratory Technicians and Respiratory Therapists to bring more depth to the team. CA-11 needs many more medical personnel to fill the ranks so when the time arrives, CA-11 will be ready, willing, and able to be deployed to provide patient care under adverse conditions. CA-11 is proud to serve.

Terry Motschenbasher, Operations Chief

President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

longer to get to the stage we are at. Everyone's dedication and hard work to date is really beginning to pay off. We are a team with lofty goals exceeded only by our resolve to achieve them and people are beginning to notice. We can all take pride in being members of CA-11.

Additional funding will be coming our way from OEP. They are working on ways to help pay more for replacement equipment, space rental, administration, logistics home expenses and training.

Our mission will be expanding to more routinely provide available emergency support services at events such as the Olympics in anticipation of possible incidents. This will make us more proactive increasing our effectiveness should the need for our services arise.

NDMS will be developing a DMAT Field Operations Guide (FOG), updating the operations description manual and updating the response team description manual.

OEP is working on vaccinations and immunizations for DMAT teams. Uniforms will be funded and replaced by OEP to standardize all uniforms to the desert tan (for teams with the blue uniforms).

There are currently 50 DMAT teams nationwide. There are five level 1 teams, one level 3 team (CA-11) and one mental health team in California.

This May's Rough and Ready exercise was a very important opportunity for us (CA-11) to introduce ourselves in the DMAT arena. The initial feedback I received about our participation at R&R was very encouraging. We had an unprecedented turnout of over 50% of our members in attendance. Our members worked well as a team displaying their professionalism and skills throughout. We worked well with other teams and leadership making a very good first impression. (I won't even comment on the after hours table dancing that some of our members reportedly engaged in for the entertainment of all). Next up is the Wildland Fire Exercise, which will be discussed in detail at upcoming meetings.

Now that we have a permanent Unit Commander Dave Sprenger, I have asked that he begin chairing the General meetings starting in May 2002. He is the more appropriate person for that role. I will continue to chair the Board meetings and focus on team development and CA-11 business matters. Dave and I both want to emphasize that we are available to meet with any team members if they have questions, concerns or suggestions that they want to bring to the leaderships' attention. *Mike Zabiegalski*

Training News – May 2002

May 15, 2002 – Introduction to the new on-line Training Software, sign-ups for Wildland Fire Training Exercise

June 20, 2002 – Fire Safety/Preparation for Wildland Exercise

June 25-26, 2002 - Wildland Fire Training Exercise with DMAT CA-6 at Camp Parks, Dublin, CA

Wildland Fire Training 2002

We have been invited back to the 2002 Wildland Fire Training Exercise on Monday June 25 and Tuesday, June 26 by our friends at DMAT CA-6. This event is organized by the Alameda and Contra Costa County Fire Districts as a joint training exercise for their personnel in practical Wildland fire suppression and incident management. CA-6 participates as the medical standby for any injuries or illnesses which occur during the exercise.

There will be an organized training program as well as the opportunity to observe the firefighters on the line. Sign-ups for participation will be held at the May meeting, and practical safety training will be a part of the June meeting. If you were unable to attend Rough & Ready, here is another opportunity to gain practical field experience. CEUs will be available.



CA 6 and CA 11 set up a shelter at the 2001 Wildland Fire exercise

Training



The Civilian Military Operations Team at Rough and Ready

On-Line Training Software Debuts

The NDMS on-line Training Program (<http://ndms.umbc.edu>) will soon complete the installation of a new software learning system. Activation of this new program is scheduled for the end of the week of May 12-18. The new system will incorporate many new features, including the ability to print CE certificates on-line.

Those who have finished modules in the old software will receive full credit for all work completed. CEU's can be obtained for any previously completed modules. Team members who have been unable to access the on-line system should be included in the database when the new system goes live, so all CA-11 members who have received their NDMS membership cards should be able to access the system once the new software is activated.

David Sprenger M.D.- Unit Team Commander
Mike Zabiegalski - President
Jim Sachs - Vice-President
Jim Rich - Secretary
Bill Bohmer - Treasurer
Tom Reagan - Plans Chief
Terry Motschenbacher - Operations Chief
Cary Chavez - Logistics Chief
Sheila Martin - Administrative Officer
Gordon Worley - Training Officer
Barry Burrows- Threat Assessment Officer
Kelly Scot Moore - Public Information Officer
Robert Newsad - Newsletter

Rough and Ready you say?

I've done rough and ready many times in my life. I'll never forget, The Boy Scout's motto, "be prepared". Sometimes it's a matter of improvising with what you have. We always learn something. Weeks before the event, I was given a title. The only question was, exactly what does a Logistics Officer for the Prophylaxis do? I didn't know and a number of others didn't seem to know either. I learned really quickly. The course of instruction began Friday morning and ended Sunday afternoon. I have managed, or herded small groups of people before, but not 50 at a time. One cannot effectively manage more than half a dozen people at a time. Next time, rather than giving 50 people a complicated job to do, I would choose six people from the group, make each one a group leader. I would then assign a task to each leader and let them make up their own groups. By doing so, instead of being asked by so many people, "What do I do next?" I would have only heard it from six people. I got a real appreciation for the ICS, on a smaller scale within the building we worked, which was within the big ICS.

Jim Holtzman CA-11



I serve in CA-11 DMAT because of my family. If my wife or either of my daughters needed medical care following a major disaster, I would want trained personnel available to provide such care, even if the local medical infrastructure were damaged and overwhelmed. Although I have no medical training myself, I can support the CA-11 medical personnel by serving as a Communications Specialist and the CA-11 Secretary.

My father set an example of volunteer service for me. He served as an officer in the US Navy's Scouts & Raiders during WW II. In 1968 he cofounded Eugene Mountain Rescue, and served as either its Secretary or its Training Officer for 25 years. I suspect that many CA-11 members volunteer for DMAT duty because of the fine examples of public service set for them by their parents.

- Jim Rich

